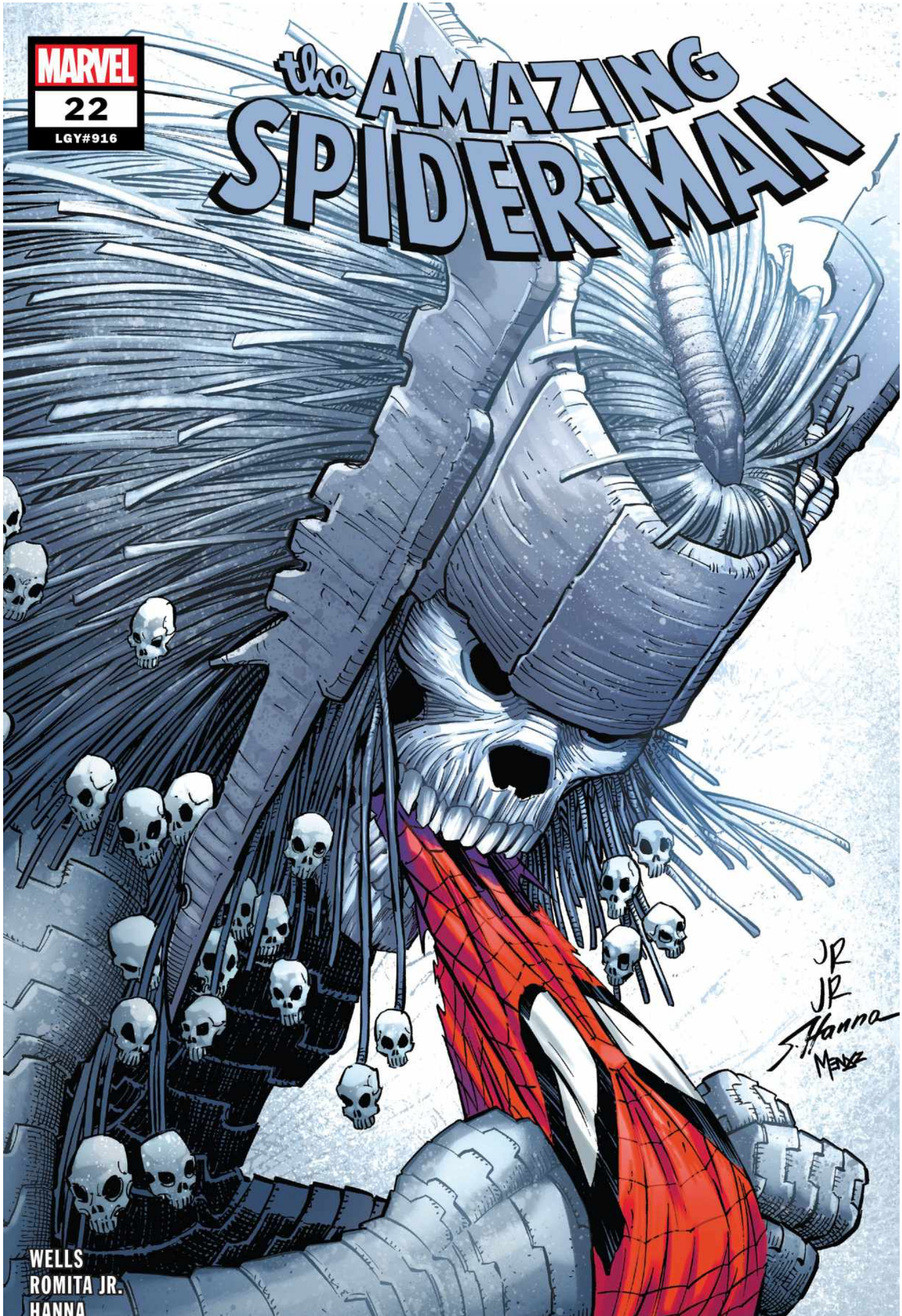
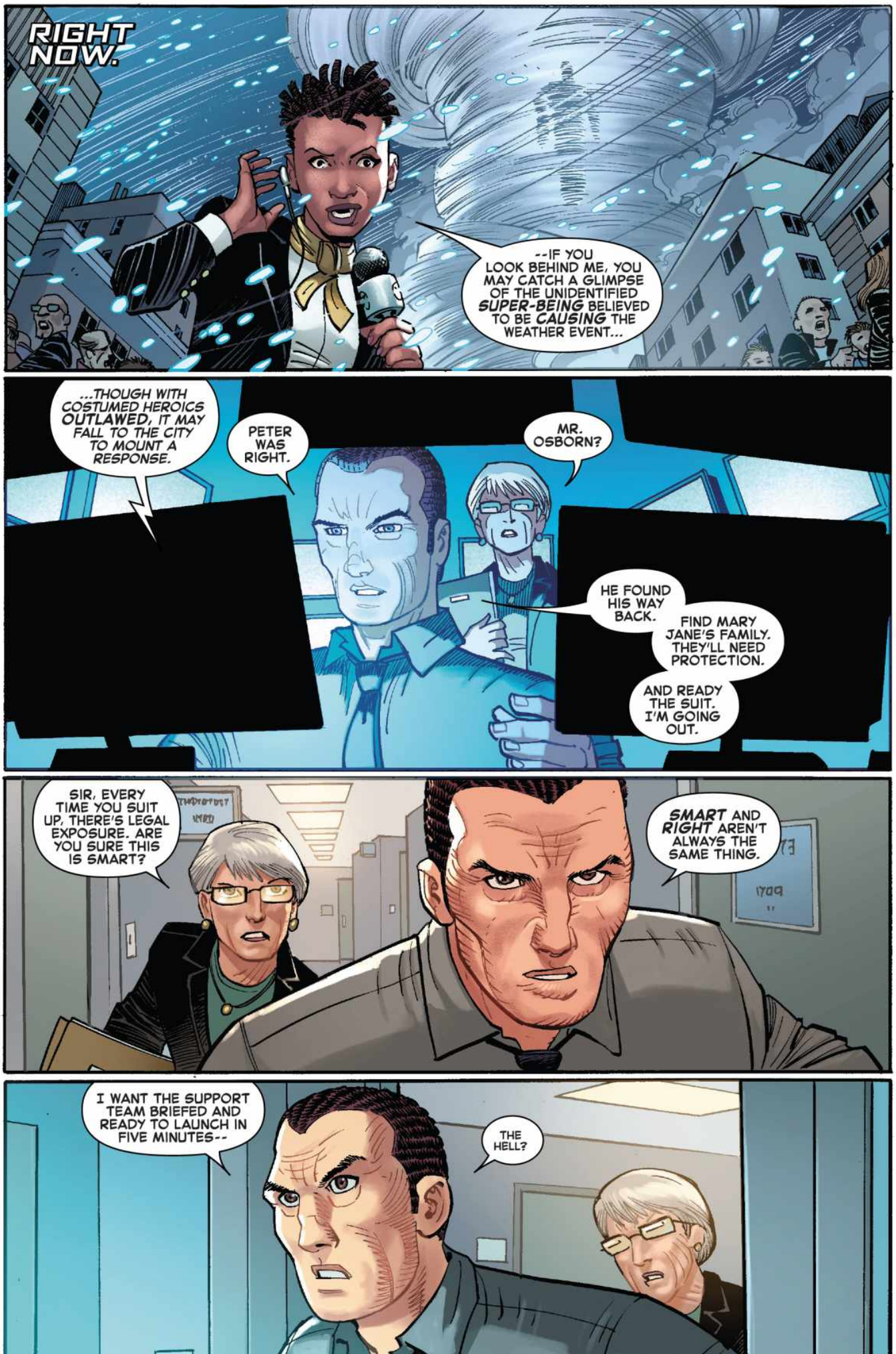
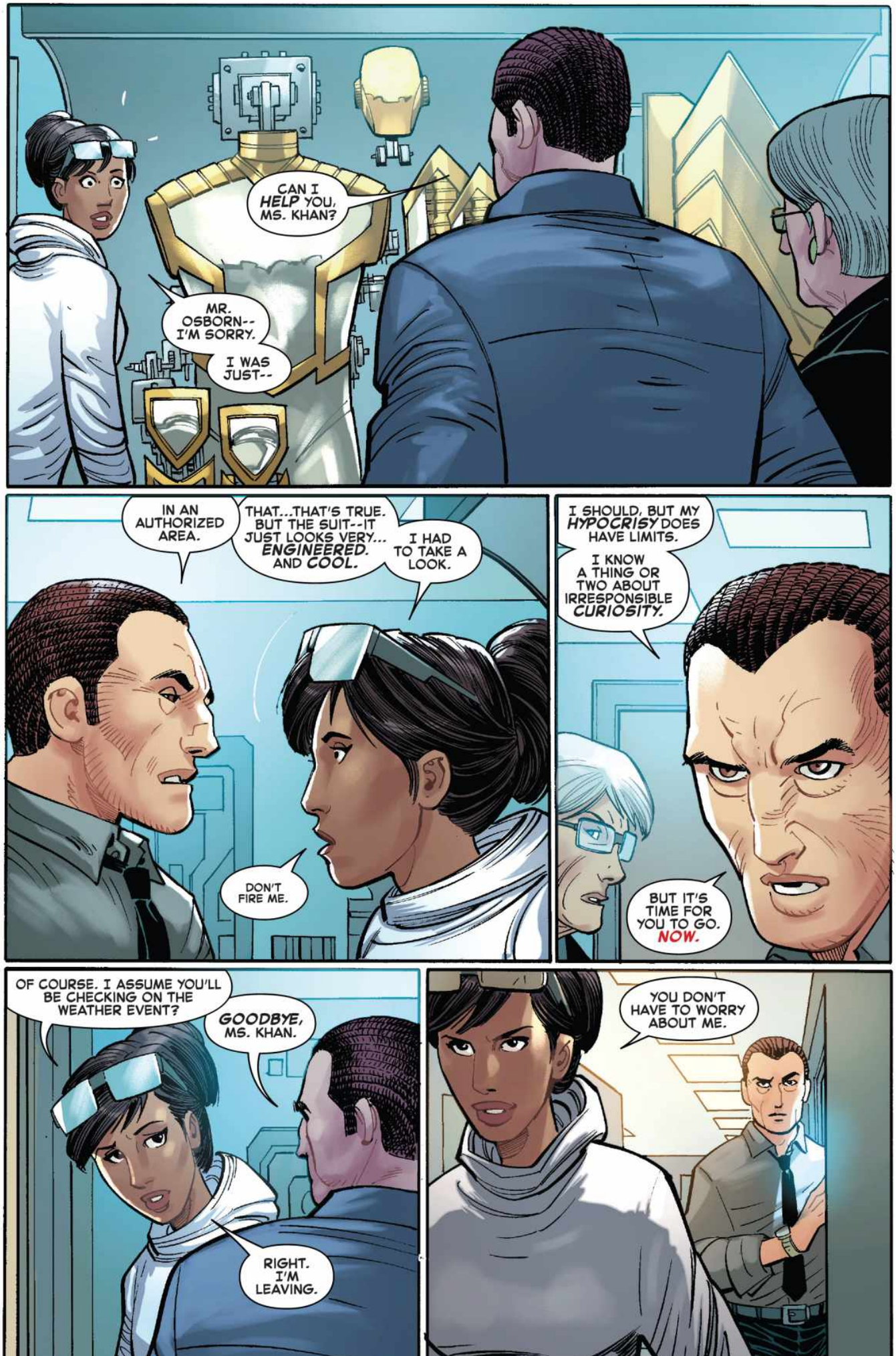

MARVEL
22
LGY#916
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
JR
JR
J. Hanna
WELLS
ROMITA JR.
HANNA


RIGHT NOW.
--IF YOU LOOK BEHIND ME, YOU MAY CATCH A GLIMPSE OF THE UNIDENTIFIED SUPER-BEING BELIEVED TO BE CAUSING THE WEATHER EVENT...
...THOUGH WITH COSTUMED HEROICS OUTLAWED, IT MAY FALL TO THE CITY TO MOUNT A RESPONSE.
PETER WAS RIGHT.
MR. OSBORN?
HE FOUND HIS WAY BACK.
FIND MARY JANE'S FAMILY. THEY'LL NEED PROTECTION.
AND READY THE SUIT. I'M GOING OUT.
SIR, EVERY TIME YOU SUIT UP, THERE'S LEGAL EXPOSURE. ARE YOU SURE THIS IS SMART?
SMART AND RIGHT AREN'T ALWAYS THE SAME THING.
I WANT THE SUPPORT TEAM BRIEFED AND READY TO LAUNCH IN FIVE MINUTES--
THE HELL?


CAN I HELP YOU, MS. KHAN?
MR. OSBORN-- I'M SORRY.
I WAS JUST--
IN AN AUTHORIZED AREA.
THAT...THAT'S TRUE. BUT THE SUIT--IT JUST LOOKS VERY... ENGINEERED. AND COOL.
I HAD TO TAKE A LOOK.
DON'T FIRE ME.
I SHOULD, BUT MY HYPOCRISY DOES HAVE LIMITS.
I KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT IRRESPONSIBLE CURIOSITY.
BUT IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GO. NOW.
OF COURSE. I ASSUME YOU'LL BE CHECKING ON THE WEATHER EVENT?
GOODBYE, MS. KHAN.
RIGHT. I'M LEAVING.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME.

PETER PARKER HAS THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A ***SPIDER***, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED ***"SPIDER-SENSE"!*** AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER PARKER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. HE BECAME THE CRIMEFIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

After Spider-Man stopped his plans to merge himself with the Mayan god WAYEP, the mad mathematician BENJAMIN RABIN spent years devising his revenge. A year and a half ago, Rabin finished his calculations and enacted his strategy to use the wall-crawler to achieve godhood.

Rabin combined his mathematical prowess and bastardization of Mayan mysticism to escape from prison and locate Peter. Upon their confrontation, he was quickly overpowered by Spidey, but not before Rabin could mark both him and MARY JANE WATSON for sacrifice. When their marks were in place, Peter and MJ were transported to an apocalyptic version of New York!

ZEB WELLS
WRITER

JOHN ROMITA JR.
PENCILER

SCOTT HANNA
INKER

MARCIO MENYZ
COLORIST

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
LETTERER

JOHN ROMITA JR., SCOTT HANNA & MARCIO MENYZ
COVER ARTISTS

CHRIS BACHALO & FRANK MARTIN; STEFANO CASELLI & EDGAR DELGADO
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

KAEDEN McGAHEY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

NICK LOWE
EDITOR

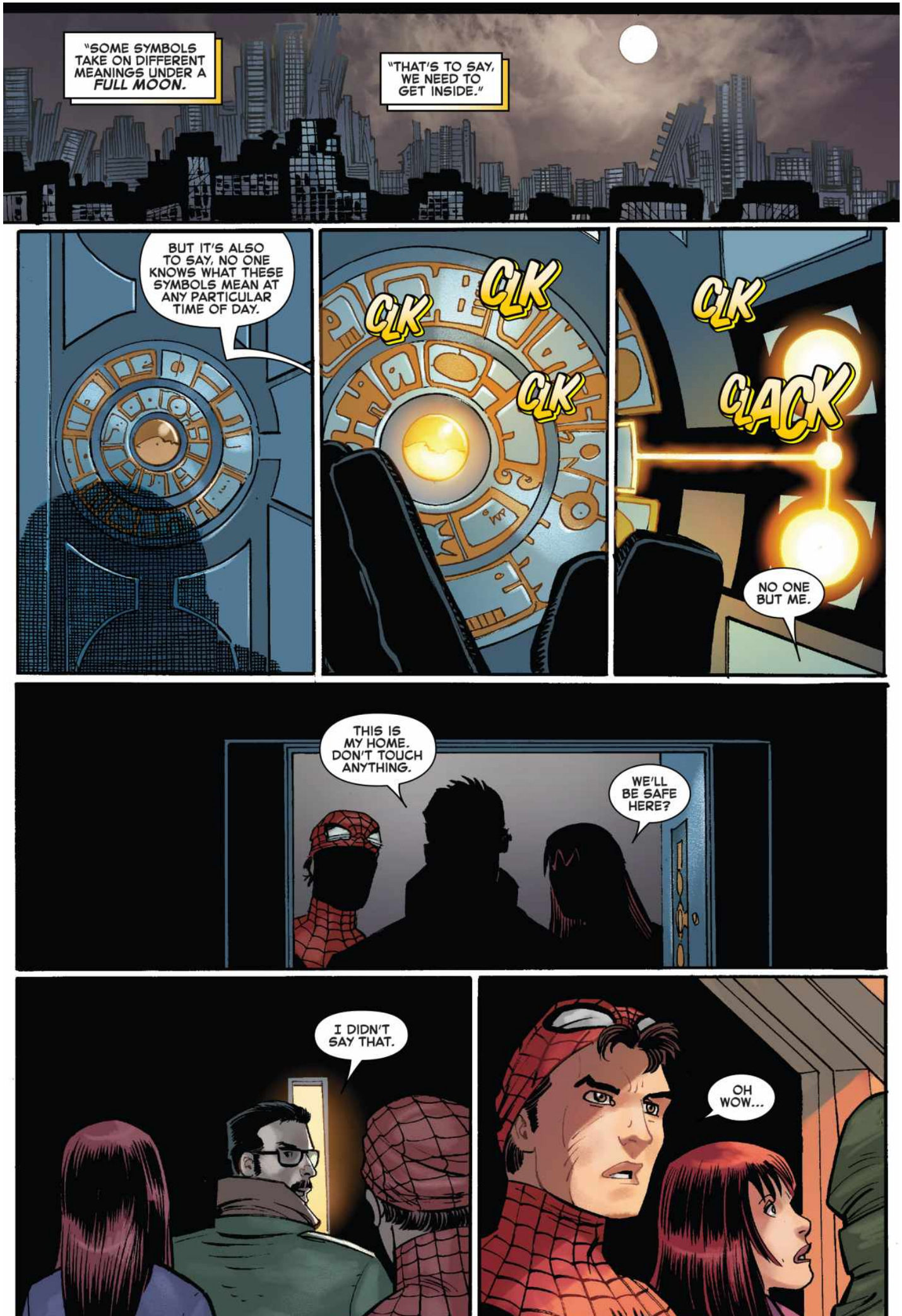
C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY
STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

ONE YEAR AGO.
FOR DAYS WE'VE BEEN ON THE MOVE. TRYING TO GET OUR BEARINGS. SCROUNGING FOR FOOD.
WHAT IS IT?!
I DON'T KNOW!
MUCH OF ANYTHING, REALLY.
THAT CREEPY DR. RABIN RETURNED, CALLING HIMSELF THE EMISSARY, AND SENT US HERE. BUT MJ ISN'T ASKING ABOUT THAT...
...SHE'S ASKING ABOUT THIS.
KEEP MOVING!
BACK OFF!
KRNCH
LAND A SOLID PUNCH TO ITS JAW.
AND ITS JAW IS ANYTHING BUT.
BUT ITS FIST IS PRETTY STURDY, IF YOU WERE WONDERING.
GUHH!
KRAK

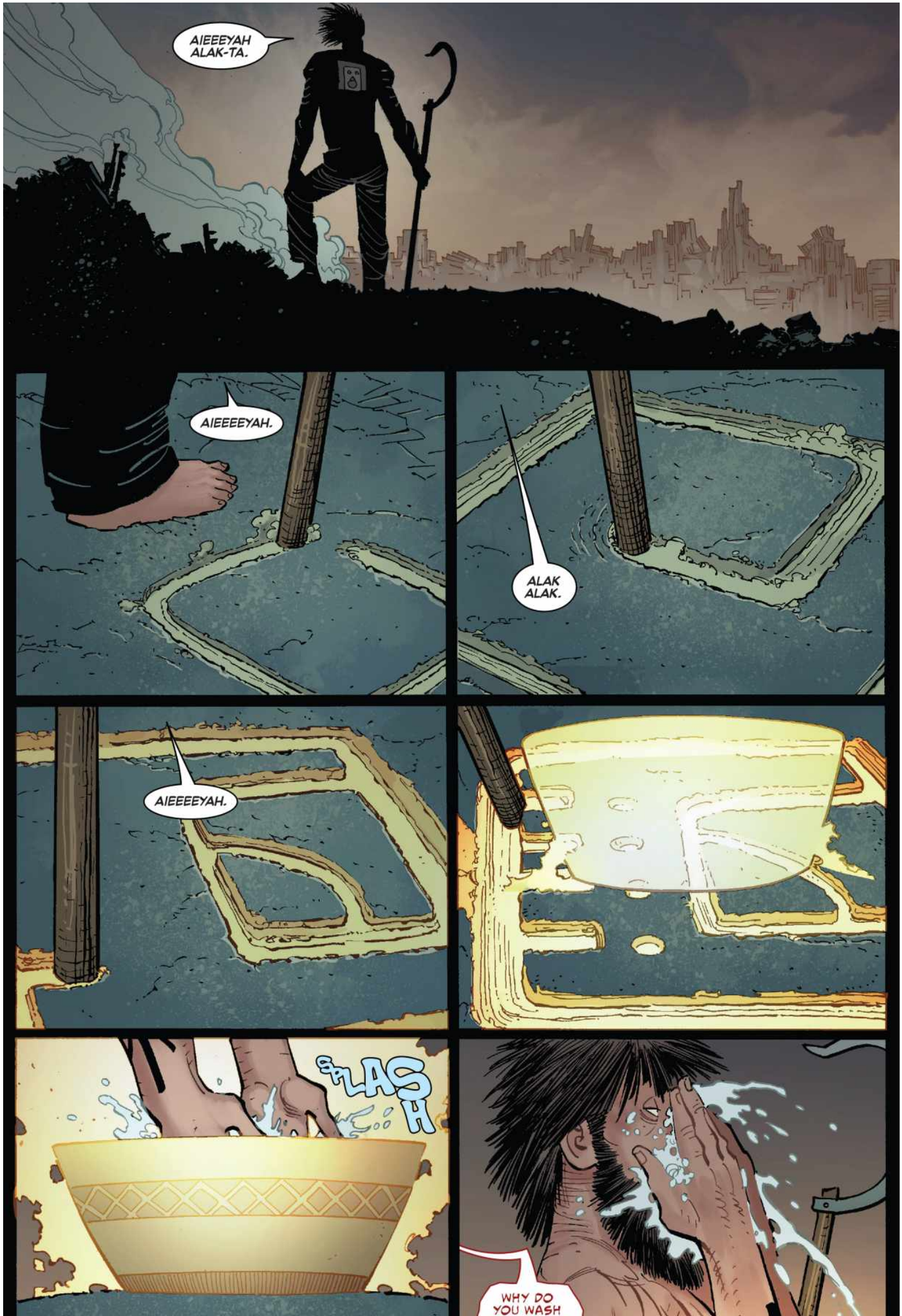
PETER!
KEEP RUNNING!
BUT I--
THUMP
WHA--?
ONE SIDE.
KA-KWARK!

KLORB!!!
HOLY--
THESE THINGS AREN'T SO SCARY...
...YOU JUST HAVE TO DISRUPT THEIR SYMBOLOGY.
OKAY... SURE.
YOU LIVE HERE? WHERE ARE WE?
RIGHT WHERE THE EMISSARY WANTS YOU.
AND THAT'S A BIG


"SOME SYMBOLS TAKE ON DIFFERENT MEANINGS UNDER A *FULL MOON.*
"THAT'S TO SAY, WE NEED TO GET INSIDE."
BUT IT'S ALSO TO SAY, NO ONE KNOWS WHAT THESE SYMBOLS MEAN AT ANY PARTICULAR TIME OF DAY.
CLK
CLK
CLK
CLK
CLACK
NO ONE BUT ME.
THIS IS MY HOME. DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING.
WE'LL BE SAFE HERE?
I DIDN'T SAY THAT.
OH WOW...

TOTEMS.
THEY'RE SYMBOLS OF ALL TYPES.
SURE, SORRY. I'M KIND OF A TOTEM GUY.
I SEE THAT.
THE TECH HERE... IT'S BASED ON THEM?
THE TECHNOLOGY IS THEM.
THE MAN WHO SENT US HERE. HE HAD THEM ALL OVER HIS BODY. DR. RABIN--
THAT'S NOT HIS NAME. NOT ANYMORE.
I WORKED WITH HIM.
PART OF A TEAM HE LED. UNLOCKING THE POWERS OF A NEW QUANTUM SYMBOLOGY.

REALITY... ALL MATTER, IS INFORMATION.
MATH, PHYSICS, QUANTUM MECHANICS... ALL ATTEMPTS TO SYMBOLIZE THE INFORMATION SO IT CAN BE MANIPULATED.
WE WONDERED IF WE COULD COMPRESS THE INFORMATION INTO A HIGHER FORM OF SYMBOLOGY.
HE WAS THE BEST AT IT.
HIS MATHEMATICS BEGAN TO RESEMBLE THE GLYPHS OF ANCIENT CULTURES. WE WONDERED IF THEY HAD WIELDED THIS POWER BEFORE US.
HAD THEY?
MAYBE. FOR A TIME. BUT THEY WERE SMART ENOUGH TO FORBID IT.
WE... WERE NOT.
THE TECHNOLOGY WAS...BEAUTIFUL. INTOXICATING.
IMBUED WITH THE RIGHT SYMBOLOGY, A PIECE OF TECH COULD CREATE MATTER OR ACHIEVE PERPETUAL MOTION. WE'D FOUND THE CHEAT CODE TO REALITY.
BUT ONLY THE EMISSARY REALIZED WHAT WE WERE REALLY DOING. COMMUNING WITH HIGHER BEINGS.
GODS.
I DON'T BELIEVE IN GODS.
THE ONE I MET DIDN'T CARE.*
BACK IN ASM #555-557. --KNOW-IT-ALL NICK
WAIT--WHAT IS THIS?!
OH. KIND OF A LONG STORY. SPIDER SYMBOLOGY SEEMS SUITED TO TRAVELING TO DIFFERENT REALITIES ALONG QUANTUM STRINGS.
STRANDS.
EITHER WAY, I COULDN'T GET IT TO
MIND IF I TAKE A LOOK?


AIEEEEYAH ALAK-TA.
AIEEEEEYAH.
ALAK ALAK.
AIEEEEEYAH.
SPLASH
WHY DO YOU WASH

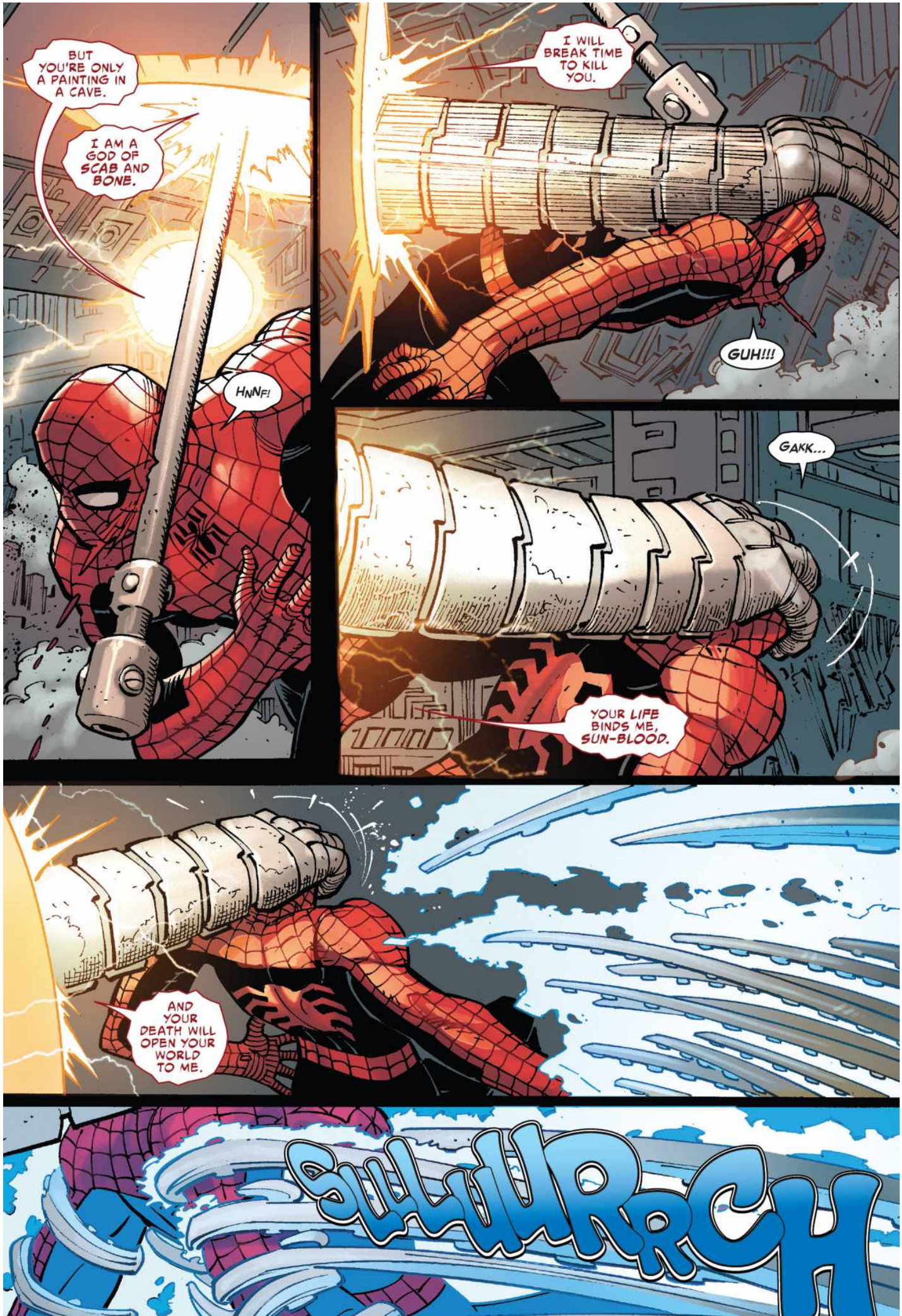
I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO SHAVE.
YOU SEEK COMMUNION?! YOU WILL ALWAYS BE UNCLEAN! BLASPHEMOUS PRIEST!
MY CEREMONY WAS DESECRATED BY YOUR FAILURE!
YOU WANTED MY HOLY POWER...BUT YOU WILL DIE WITHOUT EVEN SEEING MY FACE.
WRONG, WAYEP.
I'VE COME TO REPAIR OUR BOND. I'VE COME WITH A SACRIFICE...
...AND THE SUN-BLOOD.
KRAAAAAAAAA!

YOU SURE YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF THE WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY?
THIS IS ALMOST TRYING TO BE A DIMENSIONAL TRAVEL WATCH. MY MULTIVERSAL COUNTERPARTS USED THEM TO TRAVEL BETWEEN DIMENSIONS.
IT NEEDS TO BE CALIBRATED TO PHASE-GRAB THE QUANTUM STRANDS THAT ALLOW FOR TRAVEL...BUT IT COULD WORK.
SEND ONE OF US HOME. YOU STILL HAVE THE FF'S NUMBER, MJ?
YEAH. I CAN'T STOP JOHNNY FROM GIVING ME HIS.
WHAT?
NOTHING.
DID YOU SAY MULTIVERSAL COUNTERPARTS?
LET'S NOT GET IN THE WEEDS HERE. THERE'S A LOT ABOUT THIS SITUATION THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
LIKE WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE.
IT WASN'T MY CHOICE. I WAS HIS GUINEA PIG. A LONG TIME AGO-- TO ME, AT LEAST-- HE SENT ME HERE TO DELIVER A MESSAGE TO WAYEP. A MESSAGE HE'D CARVED IN...IN...
RABIN IS A SADISTIC MAN. TAKE MY WORD FOR IT.
I DON'T HAVE TO.
WHEN HE...MARKED ME, I SAW WHAT HE WANTED TO DO. DEATH. THE WORLD IN RUINS.
IT LOOKED LIKE THIS PLACE.

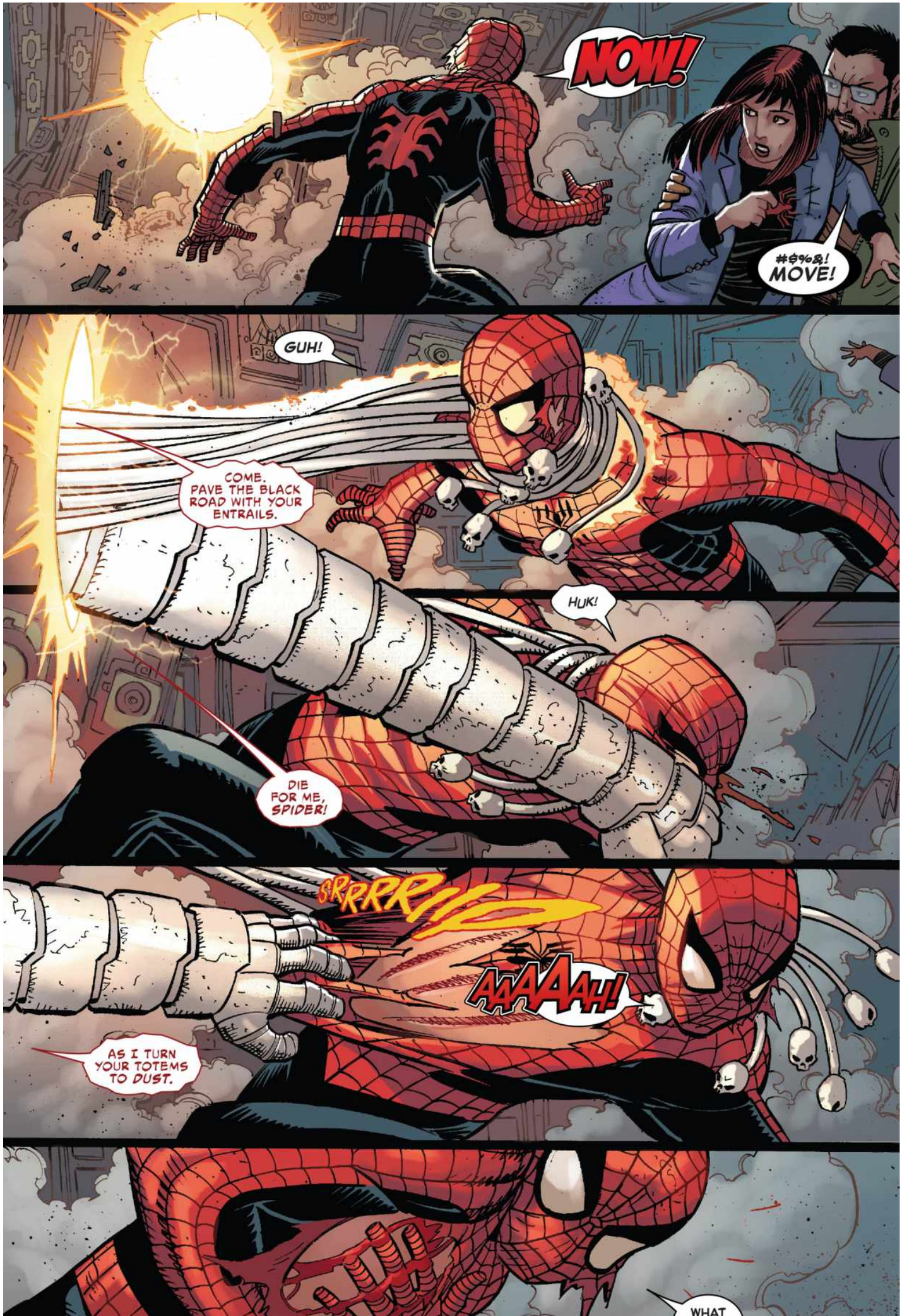
BECAUSE THIS WORLD HAD ITS OWN EMISSARY, WHO CALLED THE SAME ENTITY RABIN'S COURTING. THE CREATURE THAT CHOKED THE LIFE OUT OF THIS PLACE.
AND NOW THIS "DEITY" WAITS FOR ACCESS TO ANOTHER WORLD. ANOTHER CONQUEST.
RABIN HAD DONE IT TOO. BUT SPIDER-MAN STOPPED THE CEREMONY AND BECAME A SYMBOL OF THEIR DEFEAT. A SYMBOL WITH POWER.
THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T BE HERE.
TO FINISH THE CEREMONY, THEY MUST FIRST KILL SPIDER-MAN.
GUYS? GUYS!
I DID IT!
I CAN GET US OUT OF HERE!

SUN-BLOOD!
DOWN!
NO...
NOT HIM...
RUN, PETER!
YOU CAN'T RUN FROM THAT.
I'LL BUY US SOME TIME! GO!

YOU ROBBED ME OF MY SACRIFICE, SUN-BLOOD.
BUT YOU'RE ONLY A PAINTING IN A CAVE.
I AM A GOD OF SCAB AND BONE.
I WILL BREAK TIME TO KILL YOU.
YOU GUYS GO! I'LL HOLD HIM OFF!
HE ALREADY BEAT YOU.
WHAT?


BUT YOU'RE ONLY A PAINTING IN A CAVE.
I AM A GOD OF SCAB AND BONE.
HNNF!
I WILL BREAK TIME TO KILL YOU.
GUH!!!
GAKK...
YOUR LIFE BINDS ME, SUN-BLOOD.
AND YOUR DEATH WILL OPEN YOUR WORLD TO ME.
SLLLURRCH

GYAARRRH!!
HNNGH!
HSSssss
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
OCTOPUS GUN. IT CONFUSES YOUR SYMBOLOGY. BOUGHT US A LITTLE TIME.
USE THE SPIDER-DEVICE! GET OUT OF HERE!
NO. WE'RE SENDING MJ.
IF YOU DIE, THERE'S NOTHING HOLDING THEM BACK!
THE EMISSARY WILL MURDER OUR WORLD!
I'M NOT LEAVING HER! DO YOU HEAR ME?!
STOP IT! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!
IT'S HONED IN TO NEW YORK...OR CLOSE ENOUGH!
IT'S THE BIG GREEN BUTTON! GO!


NOW!
#$%&! MOVE!
GUH!
COME. PAVE THE BLACK ROAD WITH YOUR ENTRAILS.
HUK!
DIE FOR ME, SPIDER!
SRRRR
AAAAAH!
AS I TURN YOUR TOTEMS TO DUST.
WHAT

BOOM
I AM THE GOD OF MISCHIEF AND DEATH.
SCAR AND MARROW.
THOK
GUH!
I AM THE BLACKNESS OF NIGHT.
THE WHITE RAGE OF YOUR SUN.
AND I AM HERE TO TAKE EVERYTHING YOU ARE.

ENOUGH!
MJ! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
SORRY, TIGER.
HE CAN'T HAVE YOU.
MJ!
NO!
BEEP BEEP
BEEP
NOOOOO!
WAIT YOUR TURN, SCARLET WOMAN! FIRST, I SQUASH THE SPIDER, AND THEN I FEAST ON YOUR--
BEEP BEEP
BEEP
FWASH
--SACRI--
Gurk

KAK--
DID I--
CUT A GOD IN HALF?
YES YOU DID...
SHHHHHHHHHH
...AND GODS DON'T DIE GENTLE.
GET DOWN!
NNNF!

OUTSIDE YORK, PENNSYLVANIA.
Zwip
SHHHHHHHHH
KRAK
BOOM
Zwip
NOOO!!!

GUH--
SHHHHH!
ZWIP
THWIP
THWIP
COME ON!
COME--

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

HEY THERE, WEB-HEADS!
How about THAT for intensity?! Whoosh. I need to take a second to catch my breath.

Okay, ready. So, Mary Jane and this mysterious Paul just sliced a god in half. NBD. Yikes. I hope Peter survived that fall and is okay. JUST KIDDING--I know he survived it, but he is definitely NOT okay. As those of you who've been with us since LGY #894 can guess, we're about halfway through our story here, and you haven't even gotten to the most intense parts! Buckle up, Spider-Cups. The ride gets even bumpier from here! Let's dive into the time machine and hear what some of you thought about past ASM issues!

Dear Spider-Man,

I've been reading comics for maybe ten years now but hadn't ever really taken ownership of an AMAZING SPIDER-MAN run, so with this newest #1, I decided I'm hopping on this train and riding it to the end of the line, and as of issue #17, I've yet to regret it. My tastes lean toward Spidey on the mean streets, but Spidey in Limbo has been so enjoyably wacky and bizarre that I can't complain.

But I'm not actually writing about that! I'm writing about this! The letter column! I always make a point of checking out the letters in the back of Spidey and FF or anywhere else I can find them. I wish more books would have them these days as there is gold in them there hills, from those first reactions to Spider-Man (and JJJ) in the back of ASM #3 to George R. R. Martin writing into FANTASTIC FOUR. More than that, they're such an effective time capsule. Rereading some of the fan mail from 2020 recently was such a potent portal back to that unique time that it almost made me uneasy. I guess what I'm saying is, give me an omnibus of letter columns, please. I'm hoping one day I'll stumble across a return address from my city in one of the old letter columns, and I'll drive there, and I'll stare at the house, and I'll think to myself, "Wow, fifty years ago, this guy sat right there and thought SPIDER-MAN was 'quite good.'"

In all sincerity, I'm sure running a letter column isn't the most economical use of a page these days, but I'm glad there are still some out there, and I hope the practice continues. And to anyone reading this letter column in the future for a look back at the past: Wow, it's crazy how famous I got, huh?

Shout out to Pat, Rawn, and the gang at Velocity Comics, the undisputed greatest shop around!

Joshua Lawson
Richmond, VA

Thanks for writing, Joshua, and HI, PAT, RAWN, AND VELOCITY COMICS! I've never been to your store, but I'm adding it to my bucket list between "learn the Watusi" and "high-five Kurtwood Smith." Anyway, it's always great to meet another letters-page enthusiast. When I do my research reading and can't afford a complete run of the original books, I generally use these great PDFs of classic Marvel comics that came on a CD-ROM eons ago that were shot from classic Marvel Editor Ralph Macchio's collection and include all the letters columns and such. While I don't think we'll get that omnibus you've suggested, I will do my level best to keep doing the letters pages every chance I get. And glad you're digging the book!

Hello, Spidey-Office!

You are keeping me writing! This time about issue #17.

The Good:
• The regular cover and the variant done by JRJR (homage to his dad's classic ASM #50, "Spider-Man No More!").
• Peter sewing up a costume with the Ditko back spider from AMAZING FANTASY #15 and Ditko underarm webbing. I love all things Ditko, so please keep them coming.
• Jonah Jameson getting some time in ASM. We need more Jonah!

The Strange:
• Limbo and the demons there dressing like "humans." I really have no words for what I am seeing/reading with them.
• It still feels like we, the dear readers, are being delayed from the things we want to have wrapped up (What did Peter do? And what is up with MJ?).
• What will become of Ben Reilly? He's bounced from hero to villain and back more times than some professional wrestlers!
• I am with you for the long haul. Not giving up my streak any time soon (from issue #99 way back in 1971 to the present).

Livin' my blessed Spidey life,

Bruce Wechtenhiser, Johnstown's Spidey
Johnstown, PA

BRUCE! Great to hear from you as always. Thanks for all the feedback. I promise we're not delaying those stories, just hitting different stories we wanted, laying threads and clues, and setting things up for maximum drama!

Dear Spidey-Office,

I wanted to write this message to really give props to the entire team on the book for delivering some really solid stories and killing it at the comedy these past three issues--the flavorless brain gag in #15 was great, and Ben's terrible recollection of the events of "Beyond" were hilarious. This past issue was just incredibly creative when it came to the comedy. Ed McGuinness' art is also great--I love the way he draws Peter! It reminds me of everything I loved about Ottley's arc at the start of the last run. I read somewhere that we'll be getting our

answers on MJ's kids and her breakup with Peter in the next arc, and while I'm looking forward to it, right now, I'm just enjoying the wild ride that Dark Web has been.

Keep at it, guys! Hope you have a good one.

Sincerely,
Seb

Thanks, Seb. Every stage of these issues has had me in stitches laughing. And we've been so lucky to have Ed McG! Don't worry, fair Web-Heads, he's working on the next arc of ASM as I write this!

Guys,

I've never had so much fun reading the issue.

Crawlwaller? Rek-Rap?

And now I'm hoping that there will be more about Limbo so that we get more of these stupidly funny names.

Keep it up!

Johnathan Mark Te

Thanks, Johnathan. The demons of Limbo were one of the best surprises that Zeb served up for us. We love them all too, so don't be surprised if more show up again!

Dear Spidey-Office,

I really enjoyed issue #17 for all the ways it was fully committed to the Dark Web event while making great use of existing AMAZING SPIDER-MAN supporting characters and history. Decades of workplace scenes of Peter getting yelled at by Jolly Jonah paid off in a hilarious way and showed just how absurd and treacherous a setting like Limbo could be.

The introduction of the Insidious Six was a lot of fun, but the emergence of one common man, or common demon in this case, who goes on an origin journey to become Rek-Rap was definitely a highlight. He's an awesome addition to the Spider-Verse--I can't wait to see how he interacts with Peter and where he could pop up down the road. A good contrast to Venom and Chasm, characters frequently at odds with Peter, Rek-Rap shows he's enamored with the workplace life and super-hero life of our favorite web-slinger.

Thanks,
Chris Banks
Chicago, IL

Rek-Rap is, indeed, the cat's pajamas. Rek-Rap was an incredible idea that Ed had that Zeb took and incorporated into Limbo and Dark Web, creating that awesome origin. A truly inspired moment of collaboration. They have a few other things like that down the pike!

Hello, Spidey-Office,

I am loving all of Dark Web and also can't wait to see more of Rek-Rap. It's been really fun. I just recently got into buying comics and have had AMAZING SPIDER-MAN on my pull list since day one (and when you guys explained how I could do that). So, for my question: Are we ever going to get back into the events of six months ago? Thanks again for such great comics.

Karlo Beltran

Glad to help you set up your pull list, Karlo! What shop do you go to? They can't possibly be as good as Velocity, but I bet they're great! You didn't know it when you wrote it, but here you are, midway through the revelation of that long-running mystery!

Hey, Spider-Office,

I just read ASM #17, and I wanted to inform you how wild this ride has been so far as well as inform you of my new favorite characters!

When I read ASM #14, I was all about Hallows' Eve. Janine's been through so much, and because of that, I have a lot of empathy for her. Her tendency to risk being open and honest, to seek trust in others, Ben in particular, and her selfless loyalty show her strength and potential, and I believe beneath all her pain, there's a heart beating in there. I don't root for the bad guys, but I do have high hopes for her.

In second place, yes, I'm talking to you, Rek-Rap! I'm drawn to his innocence and positivity. And it's almost as though he's a What If? version of Venom who encountered a symbiote that turns him into Spider-Man! Is it then possible to assume he becomes Spidey's ally in Limbo?

And in first place, this grim little ghoul can be seen cruising the timeless expanse of Limbo on his conflagrant chiropteran coffin. Yes, I'm talking about the Grave Goblin! Did you guys hire a tattoo artist to design him? I'd love to know so I can kneel before them and grovel. I just know that when he speeds past you on that custom hot rod that you know he built from spare parts in a cemetery for demons, the Doppler effect smells like beer and sounds like punk rock.

Great work on all of it, but especially with these three! I hope there are plans to keep them around far beyond this fun event.

Thank you for keeping it fresh!

#MakeMineMarvel
Rudy Best
Salem, NH

WHOA! LOOK AT THE VOCABULARY ON RUDY! I'm a bit of a logophile, and I've never run into the word "chiropteran"! We hired Ed McGuinness to dream up and design Grave Goblin! Ed basically took "demonic Sinister Six" and dreamed up all six of them. The rest is history! And so am I! Time to go get #23 ready for you all! See you in two weeks for one of the most exciting issues of ASM in history thanks to Zeb, Johnny, Scott, Marcio, and Joe!

KEEP THWIPPIN'!

Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor
NY, NY

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

NEXT: **ISSUE #23**

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ZONE